

**Remarks**

This Request for Continued Examination and Reply is in response to the Office Action mailed January 16, 2009, and the Advisory Action mailed March 24, 2009. Reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

**I. Summary of Examiner's Rejections**

Prior to the Office Action mailed January 16, 2009, Claims 24-29, 63-64, and 68-73 were pending in the Application. In the Office Action, Claims 24-29, 63-64, and 68-73 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lipkin (U.S. Patent No. 6,721,747).

**II. Summary of Applicant's Amendment**

The present Reply amends Claims 24, 63, and 68, and adds new Claims 77-85, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration Claims 24-29, 63-64, 68-73, and 77-85. Reconsideration of the Application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

**III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)**

In the Office Action mailed January 16, 2009, Claims 24-29, 63-64, and 68-73 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Lipkin (U.S. Patent No. 6,721,747).

**Claim 24**

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claim 24 for at least the reasons provided below. To expedite prosecution, Claim 24 has also been amended to further recite the embodiment therein as:

*24. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a unified user profile for providing to a user application transparent access to a personalization database and an external user database, said method comprising the steps of:*

*obtaining a base user class adapted to use a personalization server to access a personalization database, wherein said base user class provides an interface to a user application through which properties can be retrieved from and updated in the personalization database using base methods, and further wherein the access to the personalization database can be carried out independent of the naming convention of data in the personalization database;*

*generating a unified user profile by creating an extended user class to extend the base user class such that the extended user class inherits the base methods from the base user class, for retrieving and updating the properties, and wherein the extended*

*user class further includes external database-specific methods that can retrieve and update properties in an external user database, wherein the external user database can use a different naming convention than the personalization database, and wherein the database-specific methods are called by the base methods to complete operations on properties stored in the databases;*

*wherein the unified user profile allows the user application to access data in the personalization database and the external user database independent of whether the accessed data is in the personalization database or the external user database;*

*wherein the extended user class uses a property set, said property set adapted to give namespace qualifications to properties of said data in said personalization database such that the property set differentiates multiple properties that share a single property name, and further wherein said properties comprise getter and setter properties; and*

*obtaining a security realm adapted to allow authentication of data in said personalization database and said external user database.*

Lipkin discloses a method and apparatus for managing information in an information resource system containing a server, a client, and a database by generating metadata using an import agent, and dispatching the at least one match or a result associated with the match using a delivery agent. (Abstract). As disclosed therein, the ISabaRemote interface extends the standard EJB interface EJBObject and provides the following sets of methods: void setCustomAttrVal(String attr, <type> value), and <type> getCustomAttrVal(String attr). (Column 25, lines 8-12). The security API can be used to create a new security list, assign users to that security list, and check privileges for that user. (Column 42, lines 43-45).

Applicant respectfully submits that, based on the above description, in Lipkin, while the SabaSecurityManager appears to include methods for creating and managing security lists; and also appears to extend the ISabaRemote interface which appears to include get and set methods; the methods of SabaSecurityManager are not called by the methods of ISabaRemote to complete operations. As such, Lipkin does not appear to disclose or render obvious that database-specific methods are called by base methods to complete operations on properties stored in the databases. Claim 24 has been amended to recite that, in the embodiment therein, *the database-specific methods are called by the base methods to complete operations on properties stored in the databases.*

Furthermore, as described above, Lipkin appears to disclose methods for creating and managing security lists; however these methods do not appear to be database-specific methods, but instead appear to be generic, with no regard to any particular database. Claim 24

has been to amended to recite that the unified user profile includes external *database-specific methods* that can retrieve and update properties in an external user database.

Additionally, Lipkin appears to disclose that one object may be stored in two database tables (see, for example Column 20, lines 40-60). However, Applicant respectfully submits that Lipkin does not disclose or render obvious that the two tables can use different naming conventions than one another. Claim 24 has been amended to recite that the external user database can use a *different naming convention* than the personalization database.

In view of the above comments, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 24, as amended, is neither anticipated by nor obvious in view of Lipkin. Reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

#### **Claims 63 and 68**

The comments provided above with regard to Claim 24 are herein incorporated by reference. Claim 63 and 68 recite features that are similar to Claim 24. For similar reasons as provided above with respect to Claim 24, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 63 and 68 are likewise neither anticipated by nor obvious in view of Lipkin. Reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

#### **Claims 25-29, 64, and 69-73**

Claims 25-29, 64, and 69-73 are not addressed separately, but it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable at least as depending from an allowable independent claim and further in view of the amendments of the independent claims and the comments provided above. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 25-29, 64, and 69-73 are similarly neither anticipated by nor obvious in view of Lipkin. Reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

#### **IV. Additional Amendments**

Claims 77-85 have been newly added by the present Reply. Applicant respectfully requests that new Claims 77-85 be included in the Application and considered therewith.

#### **V. Request for Interview**

In the event the above remarks fail to place the case in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests the opportunity to interview with the Examiner at his convenience, and prior to the issuance of a subsequent Office Action, to assist in expediting

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prosecution. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.


**VI. Conclusion**

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this reply, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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